

USDA Forest Service

Stewardship Contracting Proposal

Project Name: Pioneer Thin IRTC

Region: 6 – Pacific Northwest

Forest: Willamette

Ranger District: Detroit

Primary Forest Service Contact

Name: Kenneth Loree

Title: Operations Supervisory Forestry Technician

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- cell: 541-570-5773

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A.1 Project Summary/Objectives: *Provide a summary of your project. Summary should include overall resource objectives as well as the need for stewardship authority. Describe the current conditions of the project and the conditions being restored. Identify the goods and services involved in project.*

Background

In 2012, the North Santiam Watershed Council, in cooperation with the Detroit Ranger District, received a National Forest Foundation Grant to organize a small diameter thinning collaborative to restore overstocked stands on the Detroit Ranger District. Primary outcomes expected from this collaborative are the development of a collaborative process for local forest industry stakeholders to focus on watershed restoration on the National Forest and rekindle a natural resource based industry in communities impacted by the economic downturn caused by the impact of the listing of the Spotted Owl as an endangered species.

Pioneer Thin is a group of two small NEPA-ready units that provide an opportunity for the Watershed Council to lead industry stakeholders and Detroit RD personnel through the stewardship process together. Pioneer Thin will also meet Watershed Condition Framework objectives to restore watershed health by improving structure of stagnated stands, returning them to multi-layered, diverse stands able to promote a healthy, resilient ecosystem.

Partnership

During the summer of 2011 the Detroit Ranger District began a “left side” pre-NEPA public input process designed to improve the quality of the Breitenbush Watershed. The Watershed Condition Framework (WCF) was used to display the condition of the watershed. Field trips were taken with several groups including: Warm Springs and Grand Ronde Tribes, the Breitenbush Community, the timber industry, and the environmental community. Input from these field trips was used to develop project needs and refine this stewardship contracting proposal. It became evident that one major need in the watershed was to thin the many stands that had never been precommercially thinned. These stands are densely stocked, very slow growing due to competition, and consisted of trees of a diameter smaller than standard saw logs. Following these field trips, the District began conversations with the North Santiam Watershed Council regarding these stands that never received precommercial thinning. It was agreed that a collaborative effort focused on improving these stands was needed to improve watershed health. In the fall of 2011, the Detroit District worked with Liz Redon, North Santiam Watershed Council Coordinator, to successfully compete for a National Forest Foundation (NFF) grant to begin a focused effort designed to develop the needed industry to work successfully in these small diameter stands.

A description of the grant proposal is as follows:

The **Integrated Restoration of the Breitenbush Watershed at the Landscape Scale** project is planned to occur over 1 year from February 2012 to February 2013. Major activities include: research of similar collaborative processes, process design that integrates lessons learned from similar projects with local needs, education and outreach to stakeholders to recruit participation in process, industry assessment to better understand opportunities and needs, and collaborative planning and training over 4 meetings with stakeholders. Primary outcomes expected by the

project include: a collaborative process of stakeholders to develop a diversified forest industry focused on watershed restoration on National Forest land that could be replicated in other areas; return of natural resource based industry to communities impacted by economic downturn caused by impact of Spotted Owl Endangered Species Act listing; and restoring watershed health by improving structure of stagnated stands, returning them to multi-layered, diverse stands able to promote a healthy, resilient ecosystem.

NFF funds provided the North Santiam Watershed Council capacity to convene stakeholders for a collaborative planning process that will result in job creation and landscape scale watershed restoration in the Breitenbush Watershed.

Following successful funding of this project, collaborative work with small timber sale operators and special forest products industries was begun. Field trips designed to review stagnated stands in the watershed were organized. On-site inspections were coordinated. Stewardship as a tool to harness the value of the small timber products that could be produced during thinning operations was discussed. A stewardship training session for small timber operators was conducted to promote understanding and familiarity with the process. This process has successfully identified a group of small timber operators that now stand ready to assist with watershed improvement by thinning smaller diameter stands, gaining value from the wood by being flexible in processing them as different products such as firewood, post & poles, chips, biomass, and small sawtimber – something very different than has been done in the past on the “‘large timber’ is king – Willamette.” In addition, use of an IRTC stewardship contract will allow value from the smaller diameter timber to allow the needed thinning of undersized, overstocked stands, thereby creating healthier timber stands and a more resilient watershed for the future.

Restoration

Pioneer thin is located in the Headwaters North Santiam watershed, a priority watershed for restoration on the Willamette NF and Region 6. The North Santiam Watershed has many clearcuts that were replanted with the intent of future thinning and harvest. Some replanted clearcut areas were never pre-commercially thinned, or were thinned too early and without sufficient spacing, and are now densely stocked with even aged trees that have stagnated growth and offer little structure and diversity. These areas need to be thinned for watershed health and resiliency.

The Pioneer Thin Stewardship Project would treat 143 acres (Units 16 and 80 from the Presley's Twin EA) in the Headwaters North Santiam watershed, located near the Camp Pioneer Boy Scout camp, approximately 5 miles south of the Marion Forks WUI. The thinning would recover approximately 3800 tons of non-saw material that could be used as chips, firewood, post/poles or other biomass products.

The current conditions in need of restoration include:

- An overstocked stand.
- Limited vegetative structural and species diversity.
- Competing vegetation removal in a commercially thinned stand.

The Pioneer Thin Stewardship Project will:

- Improve vegetative species, structure and age class diversity.
- Improve stand health and vigor.
- Reduce fuels around the Camp Pioneer WUI

Stewardship authorities would allow the exchange of goods for service and provide a real world learning opportunity to test the viability of this type of project on the Willamette NF. The value of the product is expected to cover the needed service work. There are meadow restoration and huckleberry field improvement opportunities that can be implemented if retained receipts are available.

The project would restore healthy stand conditions to improve watershed health and resilience. The treatments would produce non-saw material that could be used for many different commercial applications.

A.2 Project Location: *Describe where the project is located relative to the nearest community.*

The Pioneer thin Stewardship Project is located approximately 5 miles south of the town of Marion Forks. The project is close to the Mt Jefferson Wilderness boundary and the Camp Pioneer Boy Scout Camp near the end of Forest Road 2261 on the Detroit RD.

A.3 Size of Project Area:

The project area includes 143 acres within two timber stands. Proposed treatments are estimated to recover .5 MMBF of timber of non-saw material. The proposed stewardship area can be found at: T12S, R7E, Sections 2, 3, and 4.

A.4 Proposed Activities: *Describe the work activities or treatments proposed to be accomplished with your project.*

Proposed activities include projects to improve stand health. Activities are divided into the following treatments:

Thinning for stand health

Unit 16

- When completed, stand will first have all trees 9" DBH and under removed. Trees 3" DBH and less can be left standing. The remaining trees greater than 9" DBH will then be thinned with a 12' d x d prescription to about 18' spacing.
- Products will be sold as Green Biomass Conversion (Grn Bio CV) including all timber over 2" on the small end and 8'in length.

Unit 80

- Thin this overstocked stand using a variable density prescription so as to leave an average of 100 trees per acre. Each bidder will describe in their stewardship proposal how they would achieve this requirement.

- Products will be sold as Green Biomass Conversion (Grn Bio CV) including all timber over 2" on the small end and 8' in length.

Post-Harvest Vegetation Treatments Included in the IRTC

Unit 16

- When project is completed, all slash over 1" in diameter and 2 feet long will be eliminated from within 66 feet of road 2261. Each bidder will describe in their stewardship proposal how they would achieve this requirement.

Unit 80

- When project is completed, fresh cut stumps must not be readily visible from road 2261 that leads to Boy Scout Camp Pioneer in order to achieve visual objectives. Each bidder will describe in their stewardship proposal how they would achieve this requirement.
- When project is completed, all slash over 1" in diameter and 2 feet long will be eliminated from within 66 feet of road 2261. Each bidder will describe in their stewardship proposal how they would achieve this requirement.
- All slash/fuel beds resulting from operations and exceeding 12" in height shall be eliminated in some way. Each bidder will describe in their proposal how they would achieve this requirement.

Post-Harvest Vegetation Treatments with Retained Receipts

- Whip Felling to restore meadow habitat.
- Conifer pruning to improve huckleberry fields.

A.5 Proposed Contract Procedures:

Authorities and Procedures	Mark if Proposed for Use
Trading Goods for Services	X
Designation by Description or Prescription <u>1/</u>	X
Retention of Receipts	X
Use of Retained Receipts from Another Approved Stewardship Project	
Retention of KV or BD Funds from Receipts (not applicable to an IRSC)	
Best Value Contracting	X
Multi-Year Contracting (cancellation payment to be obligated with award)	
Multiple Year Contracting	
Other than Full and Open Competition <u>2/</u>	
Non-advertisement with product value exceeding \$10,000	
Non-USDA Administration of stewardship contracts or agreements	
Use of an Agreement	
Type of Contract(s) to be used	

Integrated Resource Contract(s) - Service	
Integrated Resource Contract (s) - Timber	X
Standard Service Contract(s)	

1/ Will require use of Washington Office or regional special provisions. Designation by Prescription is applicable to scaled agreements or contracts only.

2/ Will require special Regional Forester approval - summarize the need this authority.

Was there consultation/coordination with AQM in development of the proposal?

No _____ Yes X _____ Laurie Abernathy
Name

Was there consultation/coordination with an Agreement Specialist in development of the task order(s)? Enter N/A if not applicable.

No _____ Yes _____ N/A
Name

A.5.1 Timeline: (estimated)

Activity	Estimated Date Completed (month/yr)
Presley's Twin EA Signed	October/2007
Layout	September/2012
Contract	February/2012
Advertise	June/2013
Award	August/2013
Contract Termination	July 2014

A.6 Current Status: *Include a summary of the NEPA status, sale preparation, and of the collaboration accomplished to date and/or collaboration planned. List cooperating groups and/or communities, city, county, state and federal agencies, tribes, individuals, etc.*

The decision for the Presley's Twin EA, which includes the stands identified for treatment with this project, was published on 10/18/2007. Most of the volume was included in the Meadow and Downing Timber Sales which were sold for commercial harvest in 2009. Meadow Thin has been completed and Downing Thin will most likely be completed in 2012.

The Pioneer thin units were not sold as part of those timber sales because they were not commercially viable as saw timber. Pioneer Thin was laid out in the summer of 2012 to incorporate the units not included in the Meadow and Downing Timber Sales.

Collaboration to determine the feasibility of small diameter thinning on the Detroit RD is currently being led by the North Santiam Watershed Council. This effort is unique because it involves working with small forest product businesses to define a niche market to accomplish watershed restoration and provide local jobs. The result of this collaborative effort, success or failure, will be used as a learning opportunity for other small diameter thinning efforts across the Willamette NF.

A wide variety of stakeholders are currently involved in the small diameter thinning collaborative.

Stakeholders consulted as part of the Small Diameter Collaborative

Landowner/Manager	US Forest Service, Detroit Ranger District
Tribes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm Springs • Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde • Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians
Timber and Forest Product Companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank Lumber Company LLC • Freres Lumber Company LLC • Melcher Logging Co Inc. • Foothills Firewood • Mt. St. Helens Reforestation, Inc. • Zelenka West • MQ Franco Reforestation • North Reforestation • Top Notch Timber • Hills Logging • Michael Chastain
Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oregon Wild • Cascadia Wildlands
Local Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breitenbush Community • Breitenbush Summer Homes
Municipalities with direct interest in project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Idanha • City of Detroit • City of Mill City • City of Lyons • City of Stayton • City of Salem
Economic Development	GROW Santiam through the North Santiam Canyon Economic Development Corporation

B.1 Project Funding: Please provide the source of PROPOSED funds anticipated for the project. May change as project progresses. For multiple fund codes, add rows as needed. Make entries in the first table only if funds are to be added to the contract. Adding retained receipts from another approved stewardship project goes into the second table.

Forest Service Appropriations to be added (do not include NEPA, prep, or admin costs) Fund Code(s):	\$ 0.00
Cooperator Contributions (applicable to agreements only) In-cash	\$
Donated Services	\$ 0.00
Other (specify)	\$ 0.00

B.1.1 Estimated Budget: (add lines to the table as needed)

Activity ^{1/}	Goods (+)	Services (-)
Product Value (Net - from below)	\$ 3,000	\$
Post Harvest vegetation treatments		1,000
Meadow Restoration Thinning		1,000
Conifer pruning for Huckleberry Improvement		1,000
Addition of Retained Receipts Source Stewardship Project -	\$	\$
Totals	\$ \$3,000	\$ \$3,000

^{1/} group activities by type of treatment type; fuel reduction, road closures, wildlife habitat improvement, precommercial thinning to restore old growth characteristics, etc.

Estimate the value of Goods by completing the following table; (add lines to the table as needed)

Product Type (Sawtimber, Low Value Material, and convertible and nonconvertible material)	Quantity or Volume to be Removed (CCF, Tons, lineal feet, cords, etc.)	Value of material to be Removed (from appraisal)
GBC	3800 Tons	\$10,000
LVM*	Not yet estimated	TBD
Total		\$10,000

*LVM, biomass in this case, may contribute to products removed. LVM available for biomass has not yet been determined.

B.2 Collaboration: *Please describe the collaborative process associated with the project. Scoping, hosting tours of the project area, or FS led group for the project, does not meet the collaboration requirement for stewardship.*

Collaboration for Pioneer Thin is ongoing. To this point collaboration has been focused around the small diameter thinning collaborative funded by the National Forest Foundation. The primary goal is to provide an opportunity for the North Santiam Watershed Council to convene a group of stakeholders for a collaborative process to develop a local industry and market around smaller timber and special forest products. This small real world project will help the watershed council and Detroit RD develop management, education, outreach, recruitment and communication tools with stakeholders to implement the stewardship process.

The Pioneer Thin stewardship project will achieve three primary goals for watershed restoration:

1. Develop an industry that would economically complete needed watershed restoration in stagnated smaller diameter timber stands and special forest products. As this industry develops and grows, the work can be extended to the entire Detroit Ranger District and broader to the Willamette National Forest.
2. Return a natural resource based industry to communities and families who once depended on clearcutting these same forests for a livelihood. The goal is to enable these families to once again earn a living while concurrently restoring forest health and resilience.
3. Develop a process for integrating watershed restoration with forest related job creation that could be replicated or adapted to other subwatersheds of the North Santiam or remaining areas of the Willamette National Forest.

B.3 Stewardship Roles and Responsibilities: *See the table for a list of roles and responsibilities related to stewardship projects. Each project and/or contract is to complete the following table to identify persons with specific roles and responsibilities. Send an electronic copy of this form to the Regional Stewardship Coordinator at time of submission of Stewardship Contracting Proposal to Regional Forester for approval as a stewardship project, with updated versions sent upon award of the contract, and prior to the start of operations. Keep the completed form with the project/contract documentation. Required entry of a named individual at time of submission of Stewardship Contracting Proposal to Regional Forester for approval as a stewardship project is indicated with an asterisk (*).*

Role	Responsibility	Designated Person's Name, Phone Number, e-mail address
Forest Supervisor *	Overall responsibility for stewardship projects on the forest. Recommends projects to Regional Forester for approval. Recommends person by name to Regional Forester to be delegated authority as Contracting Officer for a stewardship contract. See FSH 2409.19,	Meg Mitchell, 541-225-6312 mmitchell01@fs.fed.us

	60.42b. Requests from Regional Forester specific amounts of retained receipts to be transferred to another approved stewardship project.	
District Ranger *	Overall responsibility for stewardship projects on the district. Primary lead in establishing and maintaining collaboration. See FSH 2409.19, 60.42c. Coordinates with AQM in defining local area for stewardship contract. Determines amount of retained receipts to be used to pay for incidental expenses related to project level multi-party monitoring. Recommends to Forest Supervisor amounts of retained receipts to be transferred to another approved stewardship project.	Grady McMahan, 503-854-4200 gmcmahan@fs.fed.us
Forest Stewardship Coordinator *	Provide overall guidance for stewardship process. Serve as liaison and information conduit between Forest and RO, and Timber and AQM on Forest. Arrange for necessary, internal training and information sessions. Reviews stewardship proposals for compliance with handbook, manual, and 16 U.S.C 2104 note, prior to sending to RO for Regional Forester approval.	James Rudisill, 541-225-6470 jamesrudisill@fs.fed.us
FS Collaborative Liaison	Usually the District Ranger, but can be delegated to a person to with authority to act and speak for the ranger. Provides sideboards for the project to the Collaborative, and FS policy and direction related to proposed work activities.	Grady McMahan, 503-854-4200 gmcmahan@fs.fed.us
ID Team Leader	Leads the completion of NEPA	Lyn Medley, 503-854-4228 lmedley@fs.fed.us
Project Implementation Lead *	Host information sessions for prospective Purchasers. Lead contact for project specific questions during contract formulation and solicitation. Provides thorough review of contract package to assure map is complete, proper provisions are being used and correctly completed, technical specifications are clear and included, etc. Lead for formulation of future contracts utilizing Retained Receipts. Completes required monthly report to Albuquerque Service Center of volume and value, work completed and credits earned,	Ken Loree, 541-367-3490 klore@fs.fed.us

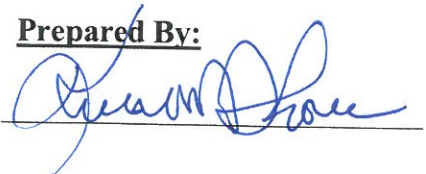
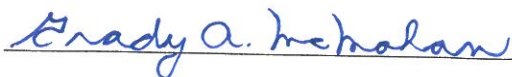
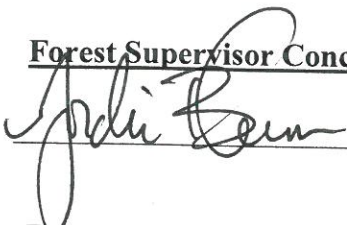
	and other required upward reporting.	
FS Multi Party Monitoring Representative	Represent the Forest Service with the Multi-party Monitoring Team (MPMT). Assists the MPMT with the preparation of the annual report.	
Collaborative Group Representative on ID Team	A person appointed by the group and approved by the District Ranger to represent their interests on the inter-disciplinary team for the approved stewardship project.	Ken Loree, 541-367-3490 klore@fs.fed.us
Field Implementation Lead	Oversee the field work associated with the Goods (product removal) and the Services (service work).	Susan Crowder, 503-854-3895 scrowder@fs.fed.us
Project Specialists	Lead resource contacts responsible for preparing required specifications for individual restoration work activities included in the contract.	Ken Loree, 541-367-3490 klore@fs.fed.us
Contract Package Preparer	Prepare all contract documents: Prospectus, Advertisement, Solicitation, FS-2400-13(T), and IRSC. Can be a timber or procurement person, but both are to work together in the preparation of the final contract package to assure proper provisions (clauses) are included, and all required parts are complete and present.	Ken Loree, 541-367-3490 klore@fs.fed.us
Source Selection Authority (SSA)	Per FAR's, final authority to approve selection of Best Value	
Source Selection Evaluation Board (SSEB)	Utilize the Source Selection Plan to evaluate offers and determine Best Value Offer to the Government. AQM CO describes to the SSEB the process or procedures to be used in evaluating proposals. A member of the collaborative is encouraged to participate in the evaluation of technical proposals, but cannot see the prices of work or product value submitted by Contractors.	
SSEB Review	Review SSEB recommendation prior to submittal to SSA	
Contracting Officer	Specifically name individual with delegated authority from the Regional Forester as a Contracting Officer (CO) on Integrated Resource Contracts. Prepares the Source	Mike Mullen (541) 225-6448 mmullen@fs.fed.us

	Selection Plan for the Best Value determination. Provide instructions and advice to SSEB and SSA.	
FSR	Forest Service Representative for FS-2400-13(T). Can be assigned to an IRSC to assist with product removal, and be assigned duties related to completing service work, as qualified.	Brenda Barton (541) 225-6438 bbarton@fs.fed.us
SA	Sale Administrator for FS-2400-13(T). Can be assigned to an IRSC to assist with product removal, and be assigned duties related to completing service work, as qualified.	Susan Crowder, 503-854-3895 scrowder@fs.fed.us
HI	Harvest Inspector for FS-2400-13(T). Can be assigned to an IRSC to assist with product removal, and be assigned duties related to completing service work, as qualified.	
ER	Engineering Rep for FS-2400-13(T). Can be assigned to an IRSC to assist with required restorative road work.	Mike Howard, 503-854-4234 mdhoward@fs.fed.us
Service Work COR	Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) for service work in Integrated Resource Contracts, and be assigned duties related to product removal, as qualified and needed.	
Service Work Inspector	Contract Inspector for service work in Integrated Resource Contracts, and be assigned duties related to product removal, as qualified and needed.	

* Required entry of a named individual at time of submission of the Stewardship Contracting Proposal form to Regional Forester for approval as a stewardship project.

B.4 Monitoring: *Please list proposed monitoring the Forest itself will undertake on this project, monitoring utilizing Collaborative Group members, or other approaches to complete project monitoring.*

The Pioneer Thin IRTC project is the first of its kind on the Detroit Ranger District. Process monitoring would be completed by the North Santiam Watershed Council to improve on future small diameter stewardship projects. Project monitoring would also occur to evaluate implementation effectiveness and economic feasibility of small diameter thinning on the Detroit RD and potentially across the entire Willamette NF.

SIGNATURE AND CONCURRENCES:**Prepared By:**Supervisory For Tech
Title2/6/13
Date**District Ranger Concurrence:**2/6/13
Date**Forest Supervisor Concurrence:**2/7/13
Date**Regional Coordinator Concurrence:**

Date

Director of Forest Management Concurrence:

Date

Director of Acquisition Management Concurrence:

Date

Regional Forester Approval:

Date

Instructions for use – complete the form and send to the Regional Forester. Also, send one of the following to Michael Daugherty at the Regional Office;

Hardcopy of the letter to the Regional Forester signed by the Forest Supervisor requesting stewardship approval for the project, accompanied by an electronic copy of the letter and completed stewardship contracting proposal form for the project signed by the Preparer, District Ranger, and Forest Supervisor. Hardcopy letter needs to have the Forest

Supervisor's original signature. Electronic signatures on the electronic stewardship contracting proposal form is acceptable.

or

Hardcopy of the completed stewardship contracting proposal form for the project with original signatures of the Preparer, District Ranger, and Forest Supervisor, followed by and electronic copy of the completed stewardship contracting proposal form for the project.

Call Michael Daugherty at 503-808-2519 if you have questions!!